possessing qualification of Diploma in Pharmacy have been given the entry scale of Pay of Rs. 4500- 125-7000/- per month. Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has intimated that the pharmacists working at CPWD dispensary at Calcutta have been given the scale of pay of Rs. 4500-125-7000/- which is the same as that for the Pharmacists working in Safdarjang Hospital, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and CGHS dispensaries.

(c) to (e) The demand of Pharmacists for grant of the entry Pay Scale of Rs. 5000-8000/- was considered by the National Anomaly Committee. A disagreement was recorded in the meeting of the said Committee held May, 2000. In accordance with the agreed settlement, such cases are decided by Board of Arbitration.

Reluctance in Referring cases to private hospitals

1492. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have authorized several private hospitals and diagnostic centres in Delhi for CGHS beneficiaries;

(b) whether the CGHS dispensaries in Delhi are showing reluctance in referring patients to these hospitals/diagnostic centres;

(c) the norms/guidelines to be followed by the CGHS dispensaries in this regard; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that the beneficiaries are able to avail of the facilities without any let and hindrance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such report has been received in this regard.

(c) and (d) CGHS beneficiaries have an option of availing specialised treatment/diagnostic tests at private hospitals/diagnostic centres recognised under CGHS after obtaining the advice of the specialist of CGHS/Govt. hospital/CMO incharge of CGHS dispensary and getting permission from the concerned office in the

case of serving employees and from the CMO In-charge in the case of pensioner beneficiaries. The reimbursement of medical expenses in respect of serving employees is made by the concerned Dept. where the employees is working and in the case of pensioner beneficiaries, the private hospitals recognised under CGHS Delhi gives credit facilities and directly claims reimbursement from the CGHS.

In case of emergency, as per conditions specified in the Memorandum of Agreement, the private hospitals recognised under CGHS Delhi shall provide credit facilities to all CGHS beneficiaries on production of a valid CGHS card and the hospital shall submit the bills for reimbursement subject to the ceiling of approved rates to the respective Department in the case of serving employees and to the CGHS Directorate in the case of pensioner beneficiaries, etc. to whom reimbursement is done from the CGHS Head.

Use of Chemical Components in Acerated Drinks

1493. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various chemical components used in the preparation of acerated drinks are harmful to health;

(b) if so, the details of the chemicals used which are found to be harmful to human health;

(c) whether Government will consider prohibition on celebrities appearing in the advertisements endorsing various brands of acerated drinks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Manufacture of acerated drinks conforming to the standards for carbonated water as laid down under PFA Rules, 1955 is not harmful to human health.

(c) to (e) There is no such proposal at present.